

Patent Application Number: 10/077,922

REMARKS

Claims 1-48 and 50-100 are pending in the present application. Claims 49 and 101-111 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. Previously submitted, objected to, dependent claim 50 has been rewritten such that amended claim 50 is now an independent claim which incorporates the limitations of its previous base claim (49).

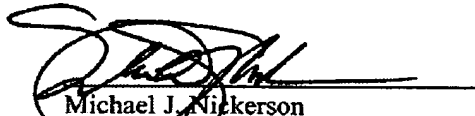
Entry of Amendments under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

The Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner enter the above amendments under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 for the following reasons. As clearly shown above, the amendments merely and **ONLY** address the objections, as set forth by the Examiner. Also, the amendments place the claims in condition for allowance without raising any new issues of materiality; reduce the outstanding issues in the present application; and place the application in better condition for appeal. More specifically, as noted above, the Examiner has already conceded that the subject matter of previously submitted dependent claim 50 contained allowable subject matter. Thus, entry of this amendment under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 is proper and respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of all the amendments and reasons set forth above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw all the present rejections. Also, an early indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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